

REMARKS

Applicants would like to thank the Examiner for the careful consideration and substantive effort given this case. Claims 1, 5, 7, 9 and 16 have been amended. Claims 4, 6, 10, 18 and 19 have been cancelled. Claims 1-3, 5, 7-9, 11-17 and 20 remain pending in this application.

The Examiner has rejected claims 1-5, 7-9, 11-16 and 20 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,000,945 to *Sanchez-Lazer et al.* This rejection is moot in light of the claim amendments described below.

The Examiner has rejected claim 18 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over *Sanchez-Lazer et al.* in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,705,870 to *Permo*. This rejection is moot in light of the claim amendments described below.

The Examiner has objected to claims 6, 10, 17 and 19 as being dependent upon a rejected base claim. The Examiner has stated that the claims would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Claim 6 depended from original claim 4, which in turn depended from original claim 1. Applicant has amended claim 1 to incorporate the limitations of original claims 4 and 6. Accordingly, claim 6 has been rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims as claim 1. As such, claim 1 is allowable over the prior art. Since claims 2, 3 and 5 depend from and incorporate all of the limitations of allowable claim 1, claims 2, 3 and 5 are likewise allowable over the prior art.

Claim 10 depended from original claim 7. Applicant has amended claim 7 to incorporate the limitations of original claim 10. Accordingly, claim 10 has been rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims as claim 7. As such, claim 7 is allowable over the prior art. Since claims 8, 9 and 11-15 depend

from and incorporate all of the limitations of allowable claim 7, claims 8, 9 and 11-15 are likewise allowable over the prior art.

Claim 19 depended from original claim 18, which in turn depended from original claim 16. Applicant has amended claim 16 to incorporate the limitations of original claims 18 and 19. Accordingly, claim 19 has been rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims as claim 16. As such, claim 16 is allowable over the prior art. Since claims 17 and 20 depend from and incorporate all of the limitations of allowable claim 16, claims 17-20 are likewise allowable over the prior art.

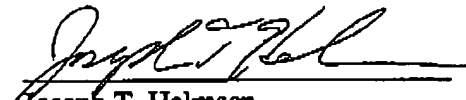
All of the stated grounds of objection and rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated or rendered moot. Applicants therefore respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw all presently outstanding objections and rejections. There being no other rejections, Applicants respectfully request that the current application be allowed and passed to issue.

If the Examiner believes for any reason that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, I invite the Examiner to telephone me directly.

AUTHORIZATION

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required for this Amendment and Response, or credit any overpayment, to deposit account no. 05-0426.

Respectfully submitted,
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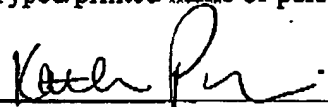
Attorney Ref.: 122467.03401

CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.6 & §1.8

Applicant:	Swanson	Examiner:	Carol S. Tsai
Serial No.:	10/731,776	Group Art Unit:	2857
Filed:	December 9, 2003	Docket No.:	122467.03401
Title:			

I hereby certify that this "AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION" is being sent via facsimile to fax number 571-273-8300 under 37 C.F.R. §1.6 & §1.8 on July 20, 2005.

Kathleen Pujol
(Typed/printed name of person mailing paper or fee)


(Signature of person mailing paper or fee)

Documents Faxed:

1. Amendment and Response to Office Action;
2. Petition for Extension of Time;
3. Certificate of Facsimile